



61 Russet Lane
N. Andover, MA 01845

April 29, 2002

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Re: CC Docket No. 02-33
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 02-42)*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Whizwireless LLC, I am writing to express my support for the comments filed on the above-referenced proceeding by The Wireless Communications Association International, Inc. ("WCA"), and to urge the Commission not to impose Universal Service Fund obligations on smaller license-exempt providers of broadband services.

We are a small local business with a staff of just four (4) people. Since November 1999, we have been using the 2.4 GHz and the 5 GHz license-exempt bands to provide high-speed Internet access to the area from Boston to Southern, NH (about 2100 square miles), where there is little or no cable modem or DSL service. Even where cable modem or DSL is available, we are the only competitive alternative.

Despite our small size and lack of funding from the government or the capital markets, we have been able to provide our customers with the type of broadband service usually available only in the larger cities, and we are doing so at an affordable price. We have invested our own capital from our parent Russet Wireless Group corporation in the startup of Whizwireless... close to \$85,000. We also are providing broadband service to schools, local government, and Public Safety giving those entities the ability to use broadband to deliver better and more cost-efficient services to their constituents. The value of our service has been recognized in a report issued by the Town of Falmouth, Massachusetts which chronicles our achievements dated April 2002.

Like any other small business, we face many daunting economic challenges but have only limited resources available to us. We therefore are very concerned about the possibility that the Commission will subject us to USF reporting and contribution obligations. I wish to emphasize

here that we are fully supportive of the goals of universal service – indeed, in effect we are already doing what universal service is designed to promote, albeit without government funding. By the same token, however, we are not an ILEC or a cable MSO, and we simply cannot afford the personnel or administrative resources necessary to ensure USF compliance.

Any diversion of what little staff we have will have a direct and immediate adverse effect on our ability to serve our customers. We are consumed by the time and personnel technical effort of installing additional transmitters to serve the rural areas of New Hampshire, Maine, and Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

We therefore urge the Commission to take these considerations into account and, at a minimum, not impose USF reporting and contribution obligations on smaller license-exempt providers of broadband service. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Peter K. Butler
President
Whizwireless LLC